

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

My name is Steve Johns and I am the President and CEO of eGIX, Inc. in Indianapolis, Indiana based company. We began business in 1990 and presently have over 20,000 customers using our ISP services in Illinois and Indiana.

We offer many services that our local phone company, Ameritech, provides and some that they do not. Mostly, we are about serving our customer, and recognize that is the life blood of our business. We serve our customers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You know, we've been a customer of Ameritech a long time and one thing for sure is that they don't measure up and serve us in that same fashion we serve our customers. T-1's in Chicago use to cost us \$5,000 to \$7000 a piece, today it's under a \$1,000 for the same product. Did the cost of those lines go down? I don't think so. It was all about competition. And you know what&.when competition came, things got better. It is far from great, but at least someone's (state PUC, FCC, competition) watching over the ILEC now.

The answer is for the FCC to make a good faith effort to uncover the discrimination and unfair tactics (whether it is in pricing, provisioning, or service) and put an end to it. Until the FCC has demonstrated that it is willing to do this for ISPs and their customers, any talk about lifting the rules for monopolies like Ameritech is way out of line and a major step backwards.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Johns  
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Carmel, IN 46032